# RIVERSIDE OUTLOO February/March 2010



## Riverside offers a ray of fiscal sunshine!



The City of Riverside, like all local government entities throughout California, is experiencing the effects of a national economy in deep recession. However, the City began curtailing expenditures several years ago and is weathering the storm with minimal impacts to city residents.

The key facts for every resident to know are: (1) revenues are closely monitored and expenditures are adjusted to keep the budget in balance and preserve essential services; (2) funds are set-aside as reserves, and the reserve fund balance exceeds 20% of annual revenues: (3) debt financing is only used for longterm capital improvements; and (4) debt service is easily met within the existing budget and the city maintains a high credit rating.

In addition, Riverside has taken steps to reduce spending and increase efficiency, much like the average family has done in cutting unnecessary household expenses. City government is working smarter-doing more with less-and making reductions

wherever possible without jeopardizing essential city services. Examples of reductions including curtailing travel, vehicle replacements and technology upgrades; redeploying staff from internal service to external service programs; closely monitoring staff levels and filling openings with internal staff wherever possible; working with labor associations to pursue collaborative solutions; and minimal layoffs when all other options have been exhausted.

The choices have been tough for all of us, but there is comfort in knowing that our city is prepared for today and planning intelligently for tomorrow.

# La Sierra Senior Center completed

The highly-anticipated \$7 million La Sierra Senior Center and the refurbished Community Center are ready for use. The City of Riverside Mayor and City Council invite residents to participate in the grand opening celebration of these two facilities on February 27, 2010, with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. followed by tours, entertainment, demonstrations and refreshments.

The 13,500-square-foot La Sierra Senior Center, located next to the La Sierra Park Community Center, provides specialized programs for seniors in La Sierra and surrounding areas of the City. The new facility includes a fitness center, computer lab, library, banquet room with full service kitchen, fireplace lounge,

game room with billiard tables, and an arts and crafts room.

The Community Center has a renovated façade, reception area, offices and meeting rooms. The project included new paint and floors, lighting and furnishing improvements in the gymnasium, and ADA restroom upgrades. The quad between the two centers offers outdoor space to take advantage of Riverside's wonderful climate.

Seizing our destiny as a livable, dynamic city means providing an outstanding quality of life for all of our citizens. Comfortable, conveniently located community gathering places are an important part of making Riverside a great place to live.



### **Articles**

Local water	2
Growing business	2
Riverside airshow	2
Seizing Our Destiny	3
Census count	3
Green page	4
Community calendar	5

## Riverside serves up quality water to residents



Most Riverside residents don't know where their water comes from - some think it comes from Northern California, while others think it's from the Colorado River.

In reality, Riverside's

water supply is local. The water begins as pure rain and snow in the San Bernardino Mountains and area foothills, and then settles in large pools underground called aquifers.

Riverside Public Utilities uses state-of-the-art wells that pump the water from the aquifers, and sends it through large transmission lines to local water treatment plants such as the John W. North Water Treatment Plant. Thanks to the Riverside Renaissance, the North Water Treatment Plant was designed to treat water from four wells in the Riverside North Basin and increase water supply for the City by approximately 8,000 acre feet per year.

After being treated, the water is pumped to reservoirs located throughout the City from which this high quality drinking water, surpassing all state and federal water quality guidelines, is delivered right to the customer. Day in and day out, for nearly 100 years, Riverside has been committed to protecting our water delivery systems and maintaining our high water quality for this and future generations.

To find out more about Riverside's Water Story, go to BlueRiverside.com

# Growing business chooses Riverside for expansion

2010 looks promising for Icon Vehicle Dynamics in Riverside. The company specializes in auto components for the consumer market that add quality, longevity and a superior performance comparable to that of professional racing vehicles. And all the products are made-to-order right here in Riverside.

In the last year their business saw 25% acceleration in sales and began to outgrow its location in Corona. When they decided it was time to expand, moving their operation to Riverside was an easy decision. Not only does their new location at 7929 Lincoln Avenue provide double the space of their former site with room for future growth, Riverside offered competitive advantages and a business-friendly atmosphere.

By taking advantage of the City's Commercial Improvement Program, Icon was able to transform an older building and make their investment dollars stretch even further. In addition, the company saw real utility bill savings by implementing Public Utilities energy-efficient lighting incentives.

Yes, 2010 is looking good for Icon Vehicle Dynamics with continued job growth and expansion in their future. Welcome to Riverside!

## Airshow coming to town!



The City of Riverside proudly announces the Riverside Airport Open House and Airshow to be held on March 27, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Now in its 18th year, the Riverside Airshow held at Riverside Airport continues to be one of the City's two largest family entertainment events.

Riverside Airport has become the leading destination for corporate and business aviation in Southern California's Inland Empire. This Region, separate and distinct from the greater Los Angeles area, is home to four million people and a \$40 billion annual economy. The most exciting part is that Riverside is in the center of it all.

The event will include military aircraft, a classic car show, aerobatics, helicopter displays, aviation vendors and much more. This one-day show attracts 70,000 spectators from Riverside and the surrounding Inland Empire to see the most exciting aerial performers in the airshow business today. With more than 200 acres of aircraft displays, fun for the kids, food and refreshments and community group exhibits, your family will be thrilled to be part of this very unique FREE entertainment opportunity. Arrive at 7 a.m. for the pancake breakfast (only \$5) to start your day right!

For more information on this exciting event visit www.riversideca.gov/airshow/ or call 351-6113.

## Seizing Our Destiny: Riverside adopts a strategic vision

When Riverside was first established, City founders set a standard for growth and development that charted a forward-thinking, innovative vision for the future; making bold decisions that sets Riverside apart from surrounding communities to this day. With initiatives such as the Digital Inclusion Program and our Green Action Plan, Riverside has much to be proud of and has proven itself time and again to be a city ahead of the curve.

As we look ahead 10, 15, even 20 years, we realize that now is the time to make the choices that will determine our collective future. But how do we, as a community, approach these vital decisions?

After seven months of study that included focus groups, a community survey and steering committees made up of public, private, non-profit, religious and civic organizations, the City Council adopted a strategic vision plan that identifies very specific action items for shaping Riverside's future.

A long list of goals came out of the discussions but overall two essential facts became clear. First, quality of life is the key to upholding Riverside as the City of "Arts & Innovation." The vision and plan are based on the belief that setting high standards for quality of life fuels intelligent growth, encourages the blossoming of artistic

and cultural expression, and attracts desirable business and jobs to the community.

Secondly, and most important of all, for any road map to Riverside's future to be successful it must be an inclusive process. All of us: Riverside residents, businesses and employees, must share in the vision. The report is a call to action for Riversiders to seize our City's destiny and make Riverside the place you and your children want to live, learn, work, create, worship, invest, play and retire.

Read "Seizing Our Destiny: the Agenda for Riverside's Innovative Future" on the City's website: www.riversideca.gov

## Stand up and be counted!



The biggest count of the decade is coming - the 2010 U.S. Census. The U.S. Census counts every resident – both citizens and non-citizens – in the United States and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years.

Your census form will be arriving in your mailbox March 15 - 17. When you receive yours, just take 10 minutes to answer 10 short questions on key demographic information and then mail the form back in the postagepaid envelope provided. Please note that your answers

will be kept confidential and cannot be used against you by any government agency

The data collected by the census helps communities receive their share of more than \$400 billion in federal funds every year for things such as hospitals, job training centers, schools, senior centers, public works projects and emergency services. Additionally, it determines the number of seats each state is given in the U.S. House of Representatives. It's important for the future of Riverside that every resident fully participates.

The City of Riverside thanks you in advance for your cooperation and participation in 2010 U.S. Census. We can't move forward until you mail it back.

For more information, visit www.census.gov



# THE GREEN PAGE

# **Growing Greener Every Year**

2010 First Quarter **Projected Power Purchases** 

#### **POWER CONTENT LABEL**

ENERGY RESOURCES	RIVERSIDE Public Utilities*	2008 CA POWER MIX** (for comparison)
Eligible Renewable	13%	2%
Biomass and Waste	<1%	<1%
Geothermal	13%	1%
Small Hydroelectric	<1%	0%
Solar	<1%	<1%
Wind	<1%	1%
Coal	54%	33%
Large Hydroelectric	6%	18%
Natural Gas	11%	42%
Nuclear	16%	5%
Other	<1%	0%
TOTAL	100%	100%

Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) publishes the Power Content Label each quarter to help keep you informed of the various resources that are used to make up Riverside's electric power supply.

As we print the label, keep an eye on our "Eligible Renewable" columns, or what we call Green Power. This is power that comes from renewable energy resources such as the sun, wind, water and geothermal activity. By utilizing Green Power, we can reduce our dependence on fossil fuel power sources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Each year, we work to increase our commitments to add renewable generation sources to our power mix. In fact, our goal is to have 50% Green Power by 2013! This exceeds current state-mandated guidelines, which require energy utilities to provide 33% renewable energy by 2020.

Our continued investments in residential and commercial solar energy project rebates, as well as new long-term agreements with alternative energy providers will help us meet, and then surpass our goals.

To learn more about how Riverside is growing greener every year, and what you can do to belp, visit GreenRiverside.com



## **FREE Shade Trees!**



Riverside Public Utilities' electric customers can take their MARCH billing statements to one of these four retailers listed below to receive a FREE Shade Tree (up to \$25 in value, some restrictions apply). Customers have until June 30, 2010 to redeem their free shade tree coupon.

## **A&M Nursery**

10333 Arlington Avenue (951) 689-9763

#### **Louie's Nursery**

16310 Porter Avenue (951) 780-7841

#### **Parkview Nursery**

4377 Chicago Avenue (951) 784-6777

#### **Parkview Nursery**

3841 Jackson Street (951) 351-6900

For more information on this program and the Utility's year-round Tree Power shade tree rebate program visit GreenRiverside.com

## Community Events Calendar

#### February

#### La Sierra Senior Center **Grand Opening**

La Sierra Senior Center 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more info call 826-2000

**Masters of Harmony Concert Fox Performing Arts Center** 

For more info call 779-9800

#### March •

#### **Swing Dancing**

**Coffee Depot** (3204 Mission Inn Avenue) 7 - 11 p.m. For more info call 222-2263

#### **Riverside Arts Walk**

**Downtown Riverside** 6 - 9 p.m. For more info call 682-6737

#### **Adornment Exhibition Opening**

Riverside Metropolitan Museum 6 - 9 p.m. For more info call 826-5273

#### **Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off**

**County Household Waste Facility** (1780 Agua Mansa Road) 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more info call 826-5311

#### **Riverside County Philharmonic Andrew Grams Concert**

Riverside Municipal Auditorium 8 p.m.

For more info call 787-0251

#### First Sundays Family Fun Day Riverside Metropolitan Museum 1 - 4 p.m.

For more info call 826-5273

#### 55 + Life Fitness Class **Dales Senior Center**

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. For more info call 826-2047

#### The Clean-Up Woman

Featuring Telma Hopkins Riverside Municipal Auditorium

For more info call 788-3944

#### **Empowering Young Women's Conference**

**Riverside Community College** 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more info call 242-7746

## **Gladys Knight Concert**

Fox Performing Arts Center For more info call 779-9800

#### **Discovery Days**

Riverside Metropolitan Museum 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. For more info call 826-5273

#### **The Blues Rock Titan**

Featuring Joe Bonamassa Riverside Municipal Auditorium For more info call 788-3944

#### The Mousetrap **Opening Night**

Riverside Community Players 8 p.m. For more info call 686-4030

#### **Riverside Humane Society's** 18th Annual Walk with the Animals

Fairmount Park 8 - 11 a.m. For more info call 688-4340

#### 55 + Line Dance Class

La Sierra Senior Center 11 a.m. - noon For more info call 351-6435

#### **Spring Egg Hunt**

Lincoln Park 4 - 6 p.m. For more info call 826-2000

#### Oklahoma

**CBU Wallace Theater** For more info Call 343-4319

#### **Riverside Airshow 2010**

Riverside Airport 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more info call 351-6113

#### **Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off**

**County Household Waste Facility** (1780 Agua Mansa Road) 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more info call 826-5311

#### **Spring Egg Hunts**

**Various locations** 10 a.m. - noon For more info call 826-2000

#### Oklahoma

CBU Wallace Theater 2 & 8 p.m. For more info Call 343-4319

#### **Senior Spring Fashion Show** La Sierra Senior Center

noon - 3 p.m. For more info call 826-2031

#### Mayor's Night Out

**Hyatt Elementary School** 7 p.m. For more info call 826-5813

### April •

#### **Riverside Arts Walk**

Downtown Riverside 6 - 9 p.m. For more info call 682-6737

#### Jesus Christ Superstar Fox Performing Arts Center

7:30 p.m. For more info call 779-9800

#### Adornment 80's Style Party Riverside Metropolitan Museum

6 - 9 p.m. For more info call 826-5273

#### **Empire Swing Orchestra**

César Cháves Community Center 7 p.m.

For more info call 781-9561

#### The Calder Quartet

**UC Riverside (University Theater)** For more info call 827-4629

### Jesus Christ Superstar

Fox Performing Arts Center For more info call 779-9800

### Jesus Christ Superstar

Fox Performing Arts Center 2 and 8 p.m. For more info call 779-9800

#### Jesus Christ Superstar Fox Performing Arts Center

For more info call 779-9800

#### **Warren Hill Concert** Fox Performing Arts Center 7:30 p.m.

For more info call 779-9800

#### **Riverside Community**

Flower Show & Garden Tour Elks Lodge (6166 Brockton Ave.) 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more info call 643-8890

#### **Riverside Community**

Flower Show & Garden Tour Elks Lodge (6166 Brockton Ave.) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more info call 643-8890

#### **Freedom Train**

Presented by Theatreworks USA **Riverside Municipal Auditorium** 10 a.m.

For more info call 788-3944

### Salute to Service Awards

California Baptist University 11:30 a.m.

For more info call 784-5316

#### **Pat Benatar Concert**

**Fox Performing Arts Center** 8 p.m. For more info call 779-9800

#### 5th Annual Salute to **Veterans Parade** Downtown Riverside

10 a.m. - noon

For more info call 687-1175

## FOR MORE EVENTS AND DETAILS, CHECK OUT www.riversideca.gov





Saturdavs

8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Main Street** 

between Fifth and Sixth Streets

- Open year-round
- Fresh fruits, vegetables and flowers
- · Aged gouda cheeses by Winchester Cheese Co.
- Fresh baked breads from Old Town Baking Co.
- Fresh fish from Smart Fish Co.

No Dogs Allowed, except for service animals - California Health and Safety Code Sec. 114371.d





**Riverside Outlook** 

February/March 2010

Published by the City of Riverside 3900 Main Street Riverside, CA 92522

Mayor:

Ronald O. Loveridge

City Council Members:

Mike Gardner Ward 1
Andy Melendrez Ward 2
Rusty Bailey Ward 3
Paul Davis Ward 4
Chris Mac Arthur Ward 5
Nancy Hart Ward 6
Steve Adams Ward 7

City Manager: Bradley J. Hudson

826-5311

One Call Does It All!

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO.3292

RIVERSIDE, CA

PRSRT STD

#### **POSTAL CUSTOMER**



FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON RIVERSIDE EVENTS CHECK OUT www.riversideca.gov